



METHANE

UN 1971 (Compressed gas)

UN 1972 (Cryogenic liquid)

Shipping Name: UN 1971 Methane, compressed

UN 1972 Methane, refrigerated liquid (cryogenic liquid)

Other Names: Biogas Methyl hydride

Fire damp Natural gas

Marsh gas R50



WARNING! • EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE!

• CYLINDERS EXPOSED TO FIRE OR FLAME MAY RUPTURE AND ROCKET THROUGH BUILDING!

Hazards:

- Gas may travel long distances to ignition sources and flash back
- Odor is not a reliable indicator of the presence of toxic amounts of gas
- Gas in confined areas (e.g., tanks, sewers, buildings) may explode when exposed to fire
- Gas is lighter than air but will collect and stay in low areas
- Contact with liquid may cause frostbite

Awareness and Operational Level Training Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE or explosion
- Evacuate the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies

Description:

- Colorless gas
- No odor, or with a weak skunk-like odor
- Shipped and stored as a compressed gas or cryogenic liquid
- Liquid floats and boils on the surface of water; is insoluble in water
- Extremely flammable
- Gas is lighter than air but will collect and stay in low areas

Operational Level Training Response:

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Use large amounts of water to disperse gas - contain runoff
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

FIRE:

- Do not extinguish the fire unless the flow of the gas can be stopped and any remaining gas is out of the line. Specially trained personnel may use fog lines to cool exposures and let the fire burn itself out
- Cool exposed noncryogenic containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cylinders are exposed to excessive heat from fire or flame contact, withdraw immediately to a secure location

First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
 - ♦ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
- Seek medical attention
- Frostbite - warm injured area in very warm water
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

CAS: 74-82-8